

Fwd: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

From: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>
To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 24, 2021 at 6:46:52 PM Pacific Daylight Time
Attachments: Letter to BC Chicken Marketing Board 2021.06.22 FINAL.docx

Arif Lalani | ADM | Agriculture Resource Division | Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Raymond, Mark AFF:EX" <Mark.Raymond@gov.bc.ca>
Date: June 24, 2021 at 5:05:28 PM PDT
To: "Lalani, Arif AFF:EX" <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

Are you aware of this?

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Beyers, Georgina AFF:EX" <Georgina.Beyers@gov.bc.ca>
Date: June 24, 2021 at 3:57:57 PM PDT
To: "Todosichuk, Ardice AFF:EX" <Ardice.Todosichuk@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Anderson, Arlene AFF:EX" <Arlene.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>, "Raymond, Mark AFF:EX" <Mark.Raymond@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

Hi Ardice,

We've received notification (and concern) from BC Chicken marketing board that the SPCA is undertaking proactive inspections. Our team has expressed concern that this is out of line with the intent of the Animal Care Codes of Practice regulation – see analysis below.

Does the Ministry have a perspective on this?

Thank you,

Georgina

Georgina Beyers

Director, Industry Development

BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

250-896-6221

From: "Giacomazzi, Terri AFF:EX" <Terri.Giacomazzi@gov.bc.ca>
Date: Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 2:03 PM
To: "Botkin, Clayton AFF:EX" <Clayton.Botkin@gov.bc.ca>, "Beyers, Georgina AFF:EX" <Georgina.Beyers@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Droppo, Tom AFF:EX" <Tom.Droppo@gov.bc.ca>, "Forbes, Christina D AFF:EX" <Christina.Forbes@gov.bc.ca>, "Galliazzo, Katie AFF:EX" <Katie.Galliazzo@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

Hello all,

I have some concerns about some of what is in this letter, specifically:

“The inspection will include all animals currently housed on the premises and utilize the Animal Care Assessment framework developed through the National Farm Animal Care Council (Raised by a Canadian Farmer Animal Care Program) to assess compliance with the requirements of the National Farm Animal Care Council’s Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Hatching Eggs, Breeders, Chickens and Turkeys.

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<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/animals-and-crops/animal-welfare/14330>).

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From my perspective and previous work on this topic, pro-active monitoring by the BC SPCA of the Codes is not within their authority nor is it the intent of the Regulation. However, pro-active monitoring for animal distress as per the PCA Act likely is within. s.13

s.13

Terri.

From: Botkin, Clayton AFF:EX <Clayton.Botkin@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 1:30 PM

To: Beyers, Georgina AFF:EX <Georgina.Beyers@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Droppo, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Droppo@gov.bc.ca>; Forbes, Christina D AFF:EX <Christina.Forbes@gov.bc.ca>; Giacomazzi, Terri AFF:EX <Terri.Giacomazzi@gov.bc.ca>; Galliazzo, Katie AFF:EX <Katie.Galliazzo@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

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From: Bill Vanderspek <billvanderspek@BCChicken.ca>

Sent: June 24, 2021 1:15 PM

To: Botkin, Clayton AFF:EX <Clayton.Botkin@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

From: Shawn Eccles <seccles@spca.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 12:26 PM

To: Bill Vanderspek <billvanderspek@BCChicken.ca>

Subject: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

Good afternoon Mr. Vanderspek,

Please find attached a letter outlining proactive farm compliance inspections to be undertaken by the BC SPCA,

Regards

Shawn

Shawn Eccles

(He/Him)

Senior Manager, Cruelty Investigations

BC SPCA

1245 East 7th Avenue

Vancouver BC V5T 1R1

604.575.2249

1.800.665.1868 • seccles@spca.bc.ca • spca.bc.ca

Animal Cruelty and Wildlife Hotline 1-855-622-7722

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Page 04 of 90 to/à Page 05 of 90

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Fwd: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

From: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>
To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 24, 2021 at 7:57:10 PM Pacific Daylight Time
Attachments: Letter to BC Chicken Marketing Board 2021.06.22 FINAL.docx

Arif Lalani | ADM | Agriculture Resource Division | Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

Sent from my iPhone

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From: "Last, Gavin AFF:EX" <Gavin.Last@gov.bc.ca>
Date: June 24, 2021 at 5:50:28 PM PDT
To: "Lalani, Arif AFF:EX" <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

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Ardice shared a BN for meeting with SPCA from May, there was a quick reference to SPCA intentions to conduct inspections:

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This appears to be an issue appropriate for ADM level engagement with BC SPCA exec. Assume that would be Jennifer but want to confirm with you given industry connection.

I don't think we have to act immediately, as in tomorrow, but I can make time if you think its advisable.

Suggest we try for a call with SPCA (not sure who the contact is, Craig Daniels?) early next week? Thoughts?

Thanks

Gavin Last
778 974-3819

From: Todosichuk, Ardice AFF:EX <Ardice.Todosichuk@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 24, 2021 5:09 PM
To: Last, Gavin AFF:EX <Gavin.Last@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections
fyi

From: Beyers, Georgina AFF:EX <Georgina.Beyers@gov.bc.ca>
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To: Todosichuk, Ardice AFF:EX <Ardice.Todosichuk@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Anderson, Arlene AFF:EX <Arlene.Anderson@gov.bc.ca>; Raymond, Mark AFF:EX <Mark.Raymond@gov.bc.ca>
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BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

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Clayton

From: Bill Vanderspek <billvanderspek@BCChicken.ca>

Sent: June 24, 2021 1:15 PM

To: Botkin, Clayton AFF:EX <Clayton.Botkin@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

From: Shawn Eccles <seccles@spca.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 12:26 PM

To: Bill Vanderspek <billvanderspek@BCChicken.ca>

Subject: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

Good afternoon Mr. Vanderspek,

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Regards

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(He/Him)

Senior Manager, Cruelty Investigations

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From: Evers, Charlene AFF:EX <Charlene.Evers@gov.bc.ca>
To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>, Lalani, Arif AFF:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 25, 2021 at 9:36:24 AM Pacific Daylight Time
Attachments: 194860_MIN_IBN_BCSPCA May 21 2021.docx, 193499_IBN_MIN_BCSPCA.docx
Just found this other one as well (193499) from a meeting with Minister on Feb 2.....

From: Evers, Charlene AFF:EX
Sent: June 25, 2021 9:33 AM
To: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>; Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Zachary, Dawnae AFF:EX <Dawnae.Zachary@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections
As requested...

From: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 25, 2021 9:20 AM
To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Evers, Charlene AFF:EX <Charlene.Evers@gov.bc.ca>; Zachary, Dawnae AFF:EX <Dawnae.Zachary@gov.bc.ca>; Evers, Charlene AFF:EX <Charlene.Evers@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections
Sorry Charlene can you pull this note for Tom please . It was in May.
Arif Lalani | ADM | Agriculture Resource Division | Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
Cs.17 | E arif.lalani@gov.bc.ca

From: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX
Sent: June 25, 2021 9:19 AM
To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Evers, Charlene AFF:EX <Charlene.Evers@gov.bc.ca>; Zachary, Dawnae AFF:EX <Dawnae.Zachary@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections
BN that was developed for you meeting with BCSPCA.
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Cs.17 | E arif.lalani@gov.bc.ca

From: Last, Gavin AFF:EX <Gavin.Last@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 24, 2021 5:50 PM
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Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION

Ref: 194860

Date: May 21, 2021

Title: Meeting scheduled with the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Animal Cruelty (BCSPCA) on Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Issue: Vancouver property project, farm inspections, financial contributions and information sharing

Background:

The BCSPCA is a not-for-profit charitable organization, funded primarily by public donations, with a mission to protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm, and wild animals in British Columbia (B.C.). The role of the BCSPCA includes enforcement and community outreach. The BCSPCA was created in 1895, and it has authority under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCA Act)*. The *PCA Act* creates a legislative framework to prevent cruelty to animals in B.C., including family pets (companion animals), livestock, and working animals, but excluding wildlife. The BCSPCA is empowered under the *PCA Act* to ensure animal welfare through inspection and enforcement of the regulations under this *Act*.

Updates on the following item have been requested for the May 25, 2021, meeting:

1. BCSPCA updates regarding the Vancouver property project and plans to inspect a small sub-set of farms.
2. Analysis of the financial contributions made by the provincial government to the BCSPCA
3. Sharing information with the BCSPCA on significant incidents of non-regular animal death or injury incidents.

Discussion:

s.16

CONFIDENTIAL

2.) Analysis of the financial contributions made by the provincial government to the BCSPCA

Past government funding received by the BCSPCA includes:

Fiscal Year	(in millions)	Description
2020/21	1.463	Funding for Animal Care Facilities, pandemic response.
2018/20	0.0815	Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) funding. Improving BCSPCA enforcement knowledge with respect to farm animals
2016/17	5.000	Contribution to new facility construction.
2014/15	5.000	To fund repairs and upgrades to several facilities.
2010/11	0.100	To develop Standard of Cares and a Code of Practice for the Sled Dog industry.

3.) Sharing information with the BCSPCA on significant incidents of non-regular animal death or injury incidents

The inability for Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries employees to share information regarding non-regular animal deaths with the BCSPCA is covered in the *Animal Health Act* (AHA). Section 16 of the AHA limits the release of information in the possession of the Ministry related to animals. The classes of protected information in Section 16 include information which would disclose the location, species, or animal owner, whether or not there is a disease outbreak. The AHA does allow for the disclosure of this protected information in some cases under Section 17. Part of the rationale for this limitation in the AHA is to protect farmers from any fallout that may arise due to unfettered access to information about animals for which they are responsible.

Suggested Response:

- Thank the BCSPCA for their commitment and dedication to representing the collective interests of farm animals in B.C.
- The Ministry is interested in reviewing the farm inspection report once completed.
- The Ministry is bound by the requirements of the *Animal Health Act* regarding sharing of information. Should there be situations where sharing is possible, ministry staff will connect with the BCSPCA as appropriate.
- The Ministry looks forward to a continued positive and productive relationship with the BCSPCA.

Contact:

Sandra Cavallin, Senior Policy Analyst, 778 698-9869
Gray Daniels, Policy Analyst, 250-419-8715

CONFIDENTIAL

ED AT

ADM JLM

DM TE

CONFIDENTIAL

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION

Ref: 193499

Date: January 28, 2021

Title: Minister Popham and BC SPCA meeting, February 2, 2021

Issue: Minister Popham is meeting with representatives from the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA) on February 2, 2021 to discuss:

- Ongoing collaboration;
- Enforcement on commercial farms; and
- The BC SPCA's 2021 Budget Submission.

Background:

The BC SPCA

The BC SPCA is a not-for-profit charitable organization, funded primarily by public donations, with a mission to protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm, and wild animals in British Columbia (B.C.). The BC SPCA was created in 1895, and it has authority under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act* (PCA Act). The PCA Act creates legislative force to prevent cruelty to animals in B.C., including family pets (companion animals), livestock, and working animals, but excluding wildlife. The BC SPCA is the only animal organization in B.C. with the authority to enforce laws under the PCA Act. The BC SPCA operates in 44 locations and employs 645 staff members and approximately 5,500 volunteers throughout B.C.

There are two distinct functions of the BC SPCA in B.C.: a regulatory function and a community outreach function. The BC SPCA is mandated under the PCA Act to respond to animals in distress. BC SPCA enforcement actions are performed by Special Provincial Constables. Currently, the BC SPCA has 34 full time Special Provincial Constables who are authorized to investigate complaints of animal abuse and neglect. BC SPCA constables investigate approximately 8,500 complaints of animal cruelty each year, at a cost of approximately \$3.5 million annually. The BC SPCA does not receive annual, dedicated funding from the Province for their enforcement actions.

Enforcement on commercial farms

The Animal Care Codes of Practice Regulation (the Regulation) came into force on June 1, 2019, under the PCA Act, to provide further protection for farm animals by establishing reasonable and generally accepted practices of animal management. The Regulation applies to all farming and ranching operations in B.C. where the animals listed in section 2 of the Regulation are kept for the purposes of breeding, boarding, grazing, selling, training, and for the production of certain farm and ranch products and by-products. While failure to abide by the Codes of Practice is not necessarily an offence, following the Codes is a defense from conviction of animal distress. Referencing the Codes of Practice in regulation therefore provides an incentive to farmers and ranchers to follow these practices.

Approximately 20 percent of complaints received by the BC SPCA involve farm animals. Most of these complaints relate to either hobby farmers or equines. A very small percentage relate to enforcement on commercial farms (approximately 10 to 20 complaints per annum).

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Funding

A facility review in 2013 by the BC SPCA, and updated in 2019 to include all BC SPCA facilities, resulted in their adoption of a long-range Facilities Development and Services Plan (FDSP). The FDSP seeks to improve or replace facilities over a 16-year period (2014 to 2029) at a cost of \$117.5 million. The first phase of FDSP is complete (2014 to 2018) and covered facility replacement or redevelopment at six facilities (at a total cost of \$18.97 million). The second phase of FDSP covers a five-year period (2019 to 2024), and the projected total cost of this phase is \$51.4 million.

The BC SPCA's annual operating expenses grew from \$19.5 million in 2005 to \$38.5 million in 2018 as a result of expanded programing. This was matched by a similar growth in revenue due largely to the increase in donor support.

The BC SPCA received \$1.46 million from the Province as part of COVID-19 response funding to help animal care organizations through the pandemic.

Discussion:

Ongoing collaboration

In the BC SPCA's letter to the Minister requesting this meeting, their request is to "discuss how [AFF and the BC SPCA] can best partner together in the years ahead and help achieve... mutual goals, like promoting B.C.'s animal welfare laws, improving food security and continuing to improve conditions in farming communities".

AFF staff share a positive relationship with the BC SPCA. AFF staff regularly reach out to the BC SPCA for input on work and to include them in relevant consultations.

The majority of BC SPCA investigations involve companion animals, with approximately 82 percent of all investigations are related to dogs and cats. In 2018, BC SPCA's cruelty investigations program made up 12 percent of their total program spending. Because of their inherently small focus on farm animal protection, BC SPCA's expertise and knowledge of farm animals is limited. This is problematic for commercial farm operators; the lack of knowledge erodes trust of the BC SPCA within the farm animal community.

Enforcement on commercial farms

In the BC SPCA's letter to the Minister, their request is to provide important updates "regarding events that have occurred this fall related to concerns with respect to commercial farm investigations which have shifted some of our priorities", s.13
s.13

However, it is not the BC SPCA's responsibility to enforce the Codes of Practice, which outline generally accepted management practices for livestock and farm animal operators, including owners, managers, and employees. The Regulation was made to reference the Codes of Practice as reasonable and generally accepted practices of animal management (section 24.02 of the PCA Act). A point of

tension in previous discussions between AFF staff and BC SPCA staff has been around the misunderstanding of the Regulation's intention.

The BC SPCA opposes extreme and illegal actions by animal rights advocacy groups, including farm invasions and trespass to install hidden cameras. They support government action to further penalize these illegal activities.

The BC SPCA have been internally contemplating whether they should continue with farm animal investigations. This follows the decision of other provinces (e.g., Ontario) to change their animal inspection model. After internal research and discussion, the BC SPCA decided to continue with their enforcement authorities as it relates to the PCA Act on commercial farms and to seek a solution with government.

An example provided by the BC SPCA of enforcement on commercial farms is the recent events at Excelsior Farms. The video of the farm was illegally obtained and could not be used as evidence in the case. The BC SPCA supports that decision. s.13

Excelsior file led to the loss of some public support, staff were threatened, and public protests were held outside BC SPCA offices. At the time of this event, the Abbotsford police department called in a veterinary third-party assessment to Excelsior Farms, who indicated he did not see any welfare problems on the farm.

BC SPCA's 2021 Budget Submission

s.13

A/ED

AA

ADM

JLM

DM

TE

CONFIDENTIAL

FW: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

From: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>
To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Evers, Charlene AFF:EX <Charlene.Evers@gov.bc.ca>, Zachary, Dawnae AFF:EX <Dawnae.Zachary@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 25, 2021 at 11:40:00 AM Pacific Daylight Time
Arif Lalani | ADM | Agriculture Resource Division | Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
Cs.22 | E arif.lalani@gov.bc.ca

From: Raymond, Mark AFF:EX <Mark.Raymond@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 25, 2021 11:39 AM
To: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Zachary, Dawnae AFF:EX <Dawnae.Zachary@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections
Arif – just additional supporting information if you are having any conversations

From: Giacomazzi, Terri AFF:EX <Terri.Giacomazzi@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 25, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Raymond, Mark AFF:EX <Mark.Raymond@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Beyers, Georgina AFF:EX <Georgina.Beyers@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections
Super, thank you Mark.

One small addition to this is the Q and A's referenced below and used in the consultations were developed by policy and legislation (I held the pen on the draft and they were approved by Policy Director Martha Anslow and Legislation Director Arlene A.), reviewed by GCPE, Chief Vet Jane P. and your team at the time. They were also reviewed by BCSPCA and while I recall they had some concerns/different opinions about how they could use the Codes in their work under the PCA Act, the Ministry made it clear to them the Codes were not to be used for enforcement of the Act. I have emails that support this.

T.

On Jun 24, 2021, at 11:15 PM, Giacomazzi, Terri AFF:EX <Terri.Giacomazzi@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Further to the concern I raised today about the SPCA's intention to assess Code compliance on farms, attached you'll find some consultation material we used for developing the Animal Care Code of Practice Regulation in 2018 and 2019. Of particular interest, please note #s 10 and 14 in the attached Q and A document (which is located in the industry outreach email and sent to BC's livestock and poultry associations) and includes:

10. Will this approach change how the PCAA is enforced?

No. The enforcement of the PCAA is related to animals in distress; the Codes cannot be used for purposes of enforcing the PCAA. There may, however, be links between the two, such as overlap of reasonable and generally accepted practices of animal management with preventing "distress" under the PCAA (e.g. providing potable water). In these cases, the Codes would serve as an educational tool and not an enforcement mechanism.

14. What is the enforcement role of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA) in BC?

The BC SPCA is mandated by government under the PCAA to respond to animals in distress. However, the SPCA independently establishes policy and procedures in executing cruelty investigations. BC SPCA enforcement actions are performed by special provincial constables appointed under the *Police Act*. With respect to the Codes, the BC SPCA can use the Codes as reference material when conducting investigations; however, they cannot require compliance with the Codes. There may, however, be cases of overlap if a certain requirement under the Code would also be a requirement for relieving an animal from distress (e.g. providing sufficient and potable water).

Terri.

From: Giacomazzi, Terri AFF:EX
Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 2:04 PM

To: Botkin, Clayton AFF:EX <Clayton.Botkin@gov.bc.ca>; Beyers, Georgina AFF:EX <Georgina.Beyers@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Droppo, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Droppo@gov.bc.ca>; Forbes, Christina D AFF:EX <Christina.Forbes@gov.bc.ca>; Galliazzo, Katie AFF:EX <Katie.Galliazzo@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

Hello all,

I have some concerns about some of what is in this letter, specifically:

“The inspection will include all animals currently housed on the premises and utilize the Animal Care Assessment framework developed through the National Farm Animal Care Council (Raised by a Canadian Farmer Animal Care Program) to assess compliance with the requirements of the National Farm Animal Care Council’s Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Hatching Eggs, Breeders, Chickens and Turkeys.

The Animal Care Codes of Practice Regulation references the National Farm Animal Care Council’s Codes of Practice for farm animals as reasonable and generally accepted practices of animal management as per the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act*. Doing so ensures better understanding of what is meant by “reasonable and generally accepted practices of animal management” and protects farmers and ranchers where these practices are misperceived or challenged. While failure to abide by the NFACC Codes is not necessarily an offence, following the Codes is a defence from conviction of animal distress. Referencing the NFACC Codes in regulation therefore provides an incentive to farmers and ranchers to follow these practices. (Please note, this is publicly available on our website:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/animals-and-crops/animal-welfare/14330>).

When we consulted on this new regulation in 2019, we made it clear to industry associations that this regulation would not make it a requirement for producers to follow the Codes, and that BCSPCA could not treat the Codes as a “checklist”, requiring producers to meet the requirements in the Codes. The BCSPCA’s primary responsibility under the PCA Act is in relation to animal “distress” as defined in the PCA Act. A producer not meeting Code requirements does not necessarily constitute distress. Government has discussed this with the BCSPCA in the past but I recall we had differing perspectives on how the Codes are to be used.

From my perspective and previous work on this topic, pro-active monitoring by the BC SPCA of the Codes is not within their authority nor is it the intent of the Regulation. However, pro-active monitoring for animal distress as per the PCA Act likely is within. I am also very concerned about the precedent this would set when we clearly indicated in consultations with industry groups this would not happen (some of us were part of those discussions).

This really should be elevated and brought to Arlene’s/Ardice’s attention.

Terri.

From: Botkin, Clayton AFF:EX <Clayton.Botkin@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 1:30 PM

To: Beyers, Georgina AFF:EX <Georgina.Beyers@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Droppo, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Droppo@gov.bc.ca>; Forbes, Christina D AFF:EX

<Christina.Forbes@gov.bc.ca>; Giacomazzi, Terri AFF:EX <Terri.Giacomazzi@gov.bc.ca>; Galliazzo, Katie AFF:EX <Katie.Galliazzo@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

Hi Georgina,

I have no idea what to respond to this, or who this should land with. BC Chicken just sent it to me. Do you have any clarification or direction on this? It is very unexpected. I am cc’ing the other livestock specialists in case any of their commodities have received similar notices.

Clayton

From: Bill Vanderspek <billvanderspek@BCChicken.ca>

Sent: June 24, 2021 1:15 PM

To: Botkin, Clayton AFF:EX <Clayton.Botkin@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: FW: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

From: Shawn Eccles <seccles@spca.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2021 12:26 PM

To: Bill Vanderspek <billvanderspek@BCChicken.ca>

Subject: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

Good afternoon Mr. Vanderspek,
Please find attached a letter outlining proactive farm compliance inspections to be undertaken by the BC SPCA,
Regards
Shawn
Shawn Eccles
(He/Him)

Senior Manager, Cruelty Investigations

BC SPCA

1245 East 7th Avenue
Vancouver BC V5T 1R1
604.575.2249

1.800.665.1868 • seccles@spca.bc.ca • spca.bc.ca

Animal Cruelty and Wildlife Hotline 1-855-622-7722

Respectfully acknowledging that I work on, and this email was sent from, the unceded traditional territory of the Kwantlen, Semiahmoo, s̓cəwəṭən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen), Katzie, Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, and Qayqayt First Nations, as well as numerous Stó:lō First Nations whose historical relationships to the land continues today.

OUR MISSION: To protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in British Columbia.

The BC SPCA is a not-for-profit organization reliant on donations from the public. Charitable Tax # BN 11881 9036 RR0001

This message and any attachments or links are for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain privileged and confidential information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify us immediately and destroy the original message. Thank you.

<Your input on Ministry of Agriculture outreach to industry re including Animal Care and Handling Codes of Practice in regulation to support industry_BCCA.msg>
<mime-attachment>

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Tom

I'm sharing a letter that BCSPCA (et al) sent to the National Farm Animal Care Council in April 2021 which clarifies their expectations and intentions going forward in the NFACC/Codes process. You may find this letter helpful as background information.

Best

Gunta

Gunta Vitins BSc (agr), BEd, MBA

Chair, BC Egg Marketing Board

E: guntav@bcegg.com

C:s.22

From: Gunta V <GuntaV@bcegg.com>

Sent: Friday, June 25, 2021 1:21 PM

To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>; McGuire, Jennifer AFF:EX <Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Re: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

Thank you Tom.

I look forward to the meeting.

Have a good weekend.

Gunta

Gunta Vitins BSc (agr), BEd, MBA

Chair, BC Egg Marketing Board

E: guntav@bcegg.com

C: s.22

From: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Friday, June 25, 2021 1:17 PM

To: Gunta V <GuntaV@bcegg.com>

Cc: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>; McGuire, Jennifer AFF:EX <Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

Hi Gunta

Yes we can set something up. We are doing a bit of our own intel gathering so it would be in to next week before we can arrange a zoom call. Thanks for reaching out.

From: Gunta V <GuntaV@bcegg.com>
Sent: June 25, 2021 1:01 PM
To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon Tom

I trust this email finds you well. I'm reaching out to you regarding the unannounced inspections of BC egg farms that the BCSPCA is stating will begin shortly (see attached letter). I understand that all animal agriculture boards/commissions have received a similar letter yesterday.

I have several questions and am hoping that a ZOOM call with board/commission chairs and AGRI can be arranged as soon as possible so that we can discuss this issue collectively.

In the interim, The BCEMB will not be notifying egg producers about BCSPCA's new program until more information and clarification from BCMAFF is provided.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards

Gunta

Gunta Vitins BSc (agr), BEd, MBA

Chair, BC Egg Marketing Board

E: guntav@bcegg.com

C: s.22



May 19, 2021

To our colleagues at fellow NFACC member organizations:

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RE: BCSPCA Random Inspections of Livestock Operations

From: Viney, Ursula E AFF:EX <Ursula.Viney@gov.bc.ca>
To: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>, Radke, Brian AFF:EX <Brian.Radke@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 28, 2021 at 9:51:16 AM Pacific Daylight Time
Attachments: image001.jpg, image004.jpg, image005.jpg

Hi all, I'm looking into this and will get back to you asap.
Ursula

From: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 28, 2021 9:44 AM
To: Radke, Brian AFF:EX <Brian.Radke@gov.bc.ca>; Viney, Ursula E AFF:EX <Ursula.Viney@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: BCSPCA Random Inspections of Livestock Operations
Thanks Brian – s.22

s.22 Hopefully Ursula has some insight as I believe Rayna is off today.

Julie

(Marie) Julie Hughes
Compliance, Operations and Data Officer
British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
1767 Angus Campbell Road, Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3
Tel: 778-666-0560
Mariejulie.hughes@gov.bc.ca
www.gov.bc.ca/animalhealthcentre



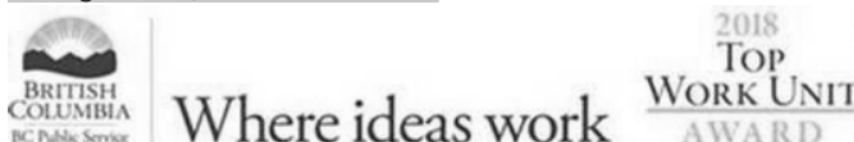
From: Radke, Brian AFF:EX <Brian.Radke@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 28, 2021 9:40 AM
To: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>; Viney, Ursula E AFF:EX <Ursula.Viney@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: BCSPCA Random Inspections of Livestock Operations
Thanks Julie for the heads up. I've no knowledge of this development or the animal welfare legislation. I'll defer to Rayna as the animal welfare lead and CV.
Brian

From: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 28, 2021 9:29 AM
To: Viney, Ursula E AFF:EX <Ursula.Viney@gov.bc.ca>; Radke, Brian AFF:EX <Brian.Radke@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: BCSPCA Random Inspections of Livestock Operations
Importance: High

Good morning,
Joe just called me about this – any comments / suggestions? s.22

Julie

(Marie) Julie Hughes
Compliance, Operations and Data Officer
British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
1767 Angus Campbell Road, Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3
Tel: 778-666-0560
Mariejulie.hughes@gov.bc.ca
www.gov.bc.ca/animalhealthcentre



FW: BCSPCA Random Inspections of Livestock Operations

From: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>
To: s.3 >
Cc: Radke, Brian AFF:EX <Brian.Radke@gov.bc.ca>, Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>, Viney, Ursula E AFF:EX <Ursula.Viney@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 28, 2021 at 1:12:36 PM Pacific Daylight Time
Attachments: image004.jpg, Letter to BC Dairy association 2021.06.22 FINAL.docx, image002.jpg, image003.jpg

Good afternoon s.3 ,

Thank you for getting in touch. Ministry of Agriculture staff are aware that this letter has been sent to all Livestock Industry Associations by the BCSPCA. Many of these associations have also been in contact with the Ministry of Agriculture to express their concerns.

We will let you know if we hear any more information in this regard. Stay safe in this incredible heat.

Julie

(Marie) Julie Hughes

Compliance, Operations and Data Officer

British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

1767 Angus Campbell Road, Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

Tel: 778-666-0560

Mariejulie.hughes@gov.bc.ca

www.gov.bc.ca/animalhealthcentre



Where ideas work



From: s.3 >
Sent: June 28, 2021 12:08 PM
To: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: BCSPCA Random Inspections of Livestock Operations

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Here is the letter. Is this true Julie? If so this is unacceptable!

What is going on here? The Ministry needs to be clear on what is going on.

s.3

Begin forwarded message:

From: Marianne Patten <canadamink@outlook.com>
Date: June 28, 2021 at 12:02:46 PDT
To: Brad Joiner <s.3>, s.3 >, s.3 >, s.3 >
<s.3>, s.3 >, s.3 >, s.3 >
s.3 >, s.3 >
<s.3>, s.3 >
<s.3>, s.3 >
Cc: s.3
Subject: FW: BCSPCA Random Inspections of Livestock Operations

Hi Again everyone

Please find attached a copy of the letter that was sent to the BC Dairy Association. In this letter BCSPCA states their intention to begin unannounced proactive inspections of regulated activities. With mink farms being one of the regulated activities, one can assume that there is a possibility of inspections on one or more mink farms as well as other commodities.

The BC Dairy Association is talking to government as this approach is not acceptable to them.

Regards,

Marianne Patten

Executive Secretary
Canada Mink Breeders Association
PO Box 68
Arcadia, NS B0W 1B0
P: 416-675-9400
E: canadamink@outlook.com

From: Marianne Patten

Sent: June 28, 2021 1:15 PM

To: s.3 ; s.3 > s.3 >;

s.3

<s.3

s.3

<s.22 >

Cc: s.3

Subject: BCSPCA Random Inspections of Livestock Operations

Importance: High

Hi Everyone

Rob Bollert and I just participated in meeting where there was mention that BCSPCA has been granted permission by Minister Lana Popham that random surprise inspections can and will be conducted on BC Livestock Operations.

While the communication did not specifically mention mink farms, you should be aware that this is happening and anticipate the possibility of a visit.

We have requested that a copy of the email communication be forwarded to us and will forward to you upon receipt.

If I have missed sending this email to any of your members make sure they are aware of it by forwarding to them.

Regards,

Marianne Patten

Executive Secretary

Canada Mink Breeders Association
PO Box 68
Arcadia, NS B0W 1B0
P: 416-675-9400
E: canadamink@outlook.com

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RE: BCSPCA

From: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>
To: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 30, 2021 at 3:13:19 PM Pacific Daylight Time
Attachments: image002.jpg

Hi,
In the end, Brian called s.3 back, unfortunately I don't know how the conversation went.

Julie

(Marie) Julie Hughes
Compliance, Operations and Data Officer
British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
1767 Angus Campbell Road, Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3
Tel: 778-666-0560
Mariejulie.hughes@gov.bc.ca
www.gov.bc.ca/animalhealthcentre



Where ideas work



From: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 30, 2021 3:09 PM
To: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: BCSPCA

Ursula mentioned you were going to chat with s.3 yesterday about this. Did you get a chance to? I'd like to touch base with him as well but wanted to know how your conversation went. I have a chiro appt for the rest of the day, but I will be working a bit tonight and tomorrow.

Thanks,
Rayna

From: s.3 >
Sent: June 29, 2021 12:05 PM
To: Radke, Brian AFF:EX <Brian.Radke@gov.bc.ca>; Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>; Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>; Viney, Ursula E AFF:EX <Ursula.Viney@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: BCSPCA

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi all.
So the mink producers need assurance from the Ministry that SPCA is not allowed on our farms. We had that assurance in the past (Jane Prichard).
For obvious reasons, we cannot allow them on.
Can you please provide us with a letter and an emergency phone number so we are prepared in the event of SPCA raid. It's obvious that mink farmers are the target here. Nobody wants any serious problems if they show up. Most likely they come with police, on a Friday or weekend and we have to be ready. We need to know what your plan is.
If you are allowing them on our farms then let me know that ASAP. So we can handle this ourselves.
<https://spca.bc.ca/ways-to-help/take-action/pledge-to-end-fur-farming-in-bc/>

Thank you!
s.3

Fwd: SPCA Letter of Response

From: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>
To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>, McGuire, Jennifer AFF:EX <Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 30, 2021 at 5:36:35 PM Pacific Daylight Time
Attachments: 2021-06-30 Letter to Shawn Eccles - BC SPCA.pdf

Arif Lalani | ADM | Agriculture Resource Division | Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeremy Dunn <jdunn@bcdairy.ca>
Date: June 30, 2021 at 5:34:56 PM PDT
To: "Lalani, Arif AFF:EX" <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: SPCA Letter of Response

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

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Information Note to support Meeting of DM and Chair August 10

From: Pedersen, Kirsten AFF:EX <Kirsten.Pedersen@gov.bc.ca>

To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>, s.3

Cc: Zachary, Dawnae AFF:EX <Dawnae.Zachary@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: August 9, 2021 at 4:51:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time

Attachments: BCFIRB Information Note - August 10 Meeting DM and Chair final .pdf

Hi Tom, Peter, Dawnae -- Peter had asked that a BN be provided to assist with the update meeting tomorrow. It is attached, and provides a brief overview of the status of the 3 main topics.

The key item is the vegetable review, with the potential ramifications to government in the eventuality set out in the bullets.

Looking forward to the meeting tomorrow.

Kirsten



BC Farm Industry Review Board

BRIEFING NOTE

DATE: August 9, 2021

TITLE: Update on Key BCFIRB Issues – Chicken Pricing Review, Vegetable Commission Allegations Review, BCSPCA Inspections

Chicken Sector Pricing Review

- Reaching a long-term solution to chicken sector pricing remains a priority.
- The BC Chicken Marketing Board (Chicken Board) continues to work with the BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission (Commission), processors and growers.

- s.17

s.17 The processors have made serious accusations that the Board is not operating in an objective, unbiased fashion, with respect to the review and assessment of the analysis and information that they have provided the Chicken Board over the past several months. The processors have expressed some concerns about BHEC, but not to the same degree.

- s.17

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BC Vegetable Commission Allegations Review

- On May 26, 2021, the BC Farm Industry Review Board ("BCFIRB") issued a Notice of Supervisory Review into allegations of bad faith and unlawful activity by members and staff of the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission (Commission) made to the BC Supreme Court by Prokam Enterprises Ltd. Prokam) and Mastronardi Produce Ltd (MPL).
- BCFIRB legal counsel has been working extensively with legal counsel for the Commission and all parties to the Review.

- s.17

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BC Farm Industry Review Board

s.17

- BCFIRB will be addressing each of these issues and will be providing written direction to the Commission in the near future.
- s.17

BCSPCA Investigations

- On June 24, 2021, the BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BCSPCA) wrote letters to a number of livestock industry associations (e.g., cattle) and the regulatory commodity boards (Hog Commission, Milk Board, Chicken Board, Egg Board, Turkey Board), advising that they will be commencing unannounced, random farm inspections in the near future under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCAA).
- This announcement has created significant concerns within BC's livestock sectors and the BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) has taken a leading role, trying to facilitate discussions between industry, the regulatory commodity boards, the BCSPCA and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries.
- A meeting of the parties was coordinated by BCAC on August 4, 2021.
- Although the BCSPCA clarified that their current initiative is considered "a pilot", and they will be limiting the inspections to two per each sector over the coming months, considerable concerns and anxiety remains within industry and the commodity boards.
- It is also not yet known what the BCSPCA would consider "a successful pilot".
- s.17



BC Farm Industry Review Board

s.17

- The BCAC, industry and the commodity boards are going to be continuing to work on these issues with the SPCA with the overall goal of ensuring transparent, accountable processes in the public interest.
- s.17

Contact:

Kirsten Pedersen
250-213-3039
kirsten.pedersen@gov.bc.ca

Alternate Contact:

Wanda Gorsuch
250-920-8012
wanda.gorsuch@gov.bc.ca

Prepared By:

Kirsten Pedersen

Letter from BC SPCA re s.15.1 inspections

From: Marcie Moriarty <mmoriarty@spca.bc.ca>
To: Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca, Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca, McGuire, Jennifer AFF:EX <Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: August 12, 2021 at 3:58:23 PM Pacific Daylight Time
Attachments: 2021 08 04 BCAC Meeting.docx, Letter to BCAC August 12, 2021 .pdf, Letter to Deputy Minister Ethier August 12, 2021.pdf

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good Afternoon Mr. Ethier,
Please find attached our letter along with enclosures.

Regards,
Marcie

Marcie Moriarty

(She/Her)

**Chief Prevention and Enforcement Officer
and guardian to Pip and Zorro**

BC SPCA

1245 East 7th Avenue

Vancouver BC V5T 1R1

604-647-1318

1-855-622-7722 • mmoriarty@spca.bc.ca • spca.bc.ca

Animal Cruelty and Wildlife Hotline: 1.855.622.7722

Respectfully acknowledging that I work on, and this email was sent from, the unceded traditional territory of the downriver hən̓q̓əmin̓əm̓ speaking peoples - ,xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), and səlilwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, and the Skwxwú7mesh-ulh Sníchim speaking peoples - Skwxwú7mesh Uxwumixw (Squamish) Nation whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

OUR MISSION: To protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in British Columbia.

The BC SPCA is a not-for-profit organization reliant on donations from the public. Charitable Tax # BN 11881 9036 RR0001

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August 4, 2021 – BC Agricultural Council

Danielle Synotte <dsynotte@bcac.ca>

Shawn Eccles <seccles@spca.bc.ca>; Marcie Moriarty <mmoriarty@spca.bc.ca>; McGuire, Jennifer ENV:EX
<jennifer.mcguire@gov.bc.ca>; Kirsten.Pedersen@gov.bc.ca <Kirsten.Pedersen@gov.bc.ca>; Wanda.Gorsuch@gov.bc.ca
<Wanda.Gorsuch@gov.bc.ca>; s.3 <s.3>; s.3

s.3 >; Derek Sturko <dereksturko@innerharbourconsulting.com>;

s.3 >; Jeremy Dunn <s.3>;

s.3

s.3

s.15; s.3

s.15; s.3

Page 45 of 90 to/à Page 51 of 90

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.15 ; s.3

Page 52 of 90 to/à Page 54 of 90

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August 12, 2021

Mr. Tom Ethier
Deputy Minister of Agriculture
PO Box 9120, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9B4

Dear Deputy Minister Ethier,

I am writing further to the meeting that took place between the BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA), BC Agriculture Council (BCAC), Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries (MAFF) staff and various commodity groups on August 4th, 2021. This meeting was attended by the BC SPCA in good faith and in keeping with our desire to work cooperatively with both industry and the MAFF in ensuring the welfare of animals as required under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCAA). While it was the BCAC that expressed the desire to meet, it is our understanding that they first approached the MAFF with concerns about the section 15.1 inspection program that had been outlined in a letter sent to industry and government on June 24, 2021. As a result of BCAC's concerns, the MAFF acted as an intermediary between industry and the BC SPCA, and we participated in a pre-meeting with government to address any concerns or questions.

At the August 4th meeting, the BC SPCA provided an overview of the farm compliance program and responded to the industries' and government agencies' questions as identified on the agenda as well as others that arose during the course of the meeting. A detailed copy of the notes is attached to this letter for reference.

We understood this meeting was to be for the purpose of sharing information and maintaining working relationships. Therefore, we were surprised and extremely disappointed when false and inaccurate information related to the inspection scheme was made public by an industry representative via the media (Country Life Facebook post.)

As a result of the erroneous and misleading information that was printed, there have been public posts threatening violence against our officers, who are sworn peace officers under the Police Act and as such agents of government, as well as comments critical of the BC SPCA and its enforcement role. Given the Ministry's direct knowledge of very recent gun violence perpetrated against a BC SPCA special constable in the execution of her duties under the PCAA, we believe it is incumbent on the Ministry to understand and be pro-active in demonstrating its commitment to the safety of our officers.

When we asked the BCAC, the organizers of the meeting, to provide a correction to Country Life, they chose to decline to do so and instead passed on the ask to the commodity group that was responsible for this "leak" to rectify the situation. The BC SPCA has subsequently received a letter from BC Chicken Marketing Board in which they refuse to correct the misinformation and go as far as suggesting that the

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

BC SPCA was to blame for any confusion/misinformation that Country Life posted. This failure to take action is extremely disappointing and we are left with no other choice then to respond to Country Life and provide a balance to the story publicly. We have since written to BCAC to express our concerns over the lack of action and to demonstrate publicly their commitment to building dialogue and good faith with the BC SPCA going forward. A copy of this letter is attached.

Over the years, Minister Popham has asked us repeatedly to try to work with industry as good partners with a goal of good animal welfare in mind. We heeded this call by participating in good faith discussions with industry, even though there was no obligation on our part to do so. In addition, as you are aware, the BC SPCA has been attempting for the better part of a year to engage the Ministry in a discussion around the future of farm animal enforcement. With that in mind, we would appreciate receiving the Ministry's position on what actions, if any, the Ministry will take to ensure these unfortunate circumstances be avoided in the future, as we believe we have demonstrated good faith throughout this process. Ultimately, the events that have transpired in the past few weeks have led us to the conclusion that the BC SPCA has been left in the untenable position of having to unilaterally defend itself for simply trying to enforce legislation that government has enacted and entrusted to us and which has been undertaken at no cost to government and without major incident for more than a century.

We believe the Ministry's agriculture responsibilities extend beyond promotion and include compliance and regulation beyond that of neutral observer and in that regard, we request that moving forward, the Ministry extend to the BC SPCA the same courtesies that have been provided to commodity groups in regard to stakeholder relations.

Currently, our priority is the safety concerns of our officers and we look forward to receiving feedback on the public role that the Ministry will play in safeguarding the interests of its enforcement agency moving forward.

Sincerely,



Marcie Moriarty
Chief Prevention and Enforcement Officer, BC SPCA

cc. Jennifer McGuire, ADM MAFF

Encls. Notes of August 4th meeting
Letter to BCAC dated August 12, 2021

SPCA Inspections Process Update

From: BCAC Communications <communications@bcac.ca>
To: McGuire, Jennifer AGRI:EX <Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca>, McGuire, Jennifer AFF:EX <Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca, Byron.Jonson@gov.bc.ca, Jonson, Byron AFF:EX <Byron.Jonson@gov.bc.ca>, Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: September 3, 2021 at 1:28:20 PM Pacific Daylight Time
Attachments: image001.png, 2021-09-03 Letter to MAFF from Industry - SPCA Inspections Process Update.pdf

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Jennifer,
Please find attached a letter from BC Agriculture Council regarding the SPCA inspections process.
Warm regards,

Cassy James

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

P: 604 854 4483 | TF: 1 866 522 3447

www.bcac.ca



Cassy James

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

P: 604 854 4483 | TF: 1 866 522 3447

www.bcac.ca



WALI
Western Agriculture
Labour Initiative

September 3, 2021

Jennifer McGuire, Assistant Deputy Minister
BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
PO Box 9409 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9V1
Sent via email: jennifer.mcguire@gov.bc.ca

Dear Ms. McGuire:

Subject: BC SPCA Unannounced Inspections Process

Thank you for maintaining an important role in the discussions between our livestock industry groups and the BC SPCA as we continue to seek clear information about the pilot project of unannounced proactive inspections by the BC SPCA.

Animal care remains the highest priority for British Columbia's farmers and ranchers. They work to continuously improve animal care programs, while also recognizing how important it is to have the support of our communities. Further, we accept that the BC SPCA has a critical role to play with respect to enforcement of the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCA Act)*.

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We welcome input from both the BC SPCA and the Ministry and sincerely look to cooperate with any project as proposed by the agency, but we are concerned that the speed of launching this pilot project has perhaps taken priority for the BC SPCA over ensuring a transparent and useful process for all involved. Please reach out if you have any questions, we look forward to your response.

Yours Truly,



BC Agriculture Council



BC Cattlemen's Association



BC Dairy Association



BC Pork Producers Association



Horse Council BC



BC Chicken Marketing Board



BC Egg Marketing Board



BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission



BC Turkey Marketing Board



BC Poultry Association

cc: Tom Ethier, Deputy Minister, BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
Byron Jonson, Executive Director, BRMB, BC Ministry of Agriculture Food and Fisheries

Coutts, Kathy CITZ:EX

From: McGuire, Jennifer AFF:EX
Sent: September 20, 2021 8:28 AM
To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX
Cc: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX; Cotton, Brian GCPE:EX
Subject: SPCA inspections - update

Hello,

2 more farms were inspected last week – Thursday and Friday. SPCA forgot to provide timely notice to AFF – so there was a bit of a scramble to find an observer. Both inspections were on Vancouver Island – a dairy and a broiler producer. Both inspections according to the observer – went well with no concerns raised or identified.

I have a meeting this week with the SPCA and BCAC – where the 4 inspections conducted to date will be discussed re: process, and concerns by producers.

JLM

*Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag.
Assistant Deputy Minister
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries*

BC SPCA | Farm Compliance Inspections

From: Lalani, Arif AFF:EX <Arif.Lalani@gov.bc.ca>
To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Rainforth, Kelly A AFF:EX <Kelly.Rainforth@gov.bc.ca>, Hansen, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Hansen@gov.bc.ca>, Evers, Charlene AFF:EX <Charlene.Evers@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 28, 2021 at 3:50:19 PM Pacific Daylight Time
Attachments: FW: SPCA - update Eapp 2970, 2021 06 23 - BC SPCA Section 15.1.pdf, 21 10 28 Letter to Minister re Commercial Farms.pdf, 194860 v2_min_ibn_bcspca may 21 2021_revised.docx, 2021 06 22 Letter to BC Dairy association.pdf, 194860_min_ibn_bcspca may 21 2021.docx

Here is all the information that you can share with Richard Fife.

Arif Lalani | ADM | Agriculture Resource Division | Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

Cs.22 | E arif.lalani@gov.bc.ca

I respectfully acknowledge that I live and work on the traditional territory of the Lekwungen (Songhees and Esquimalt) people.

FW: SPCA - update Eapp 2970

From: Todosichuk, Ardice AFF:EX <Ardice.Todosichuk@gov.bc.ca>
To: Shew, Hanna AFF:EX <Hanna.Shew@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: May 25, 2021 at 2:13:12 PM Pacific Daylight Time
Can you find me this eapproval?
AT

From: McGuire, Jennifer AFF:EX <Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: May 25, 2021 2:03 PM
To: Todosichuk, Ardice AFF:EX <Ardice.Todosichuk@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Norton, Chris AFF:EX <Chris.Norton@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: SPCA - update Eapp 2970

Hi – as a follow up to the meeting this morning with the MO – the note in eapp 2970 was very good. A few questions were raised which I would like staff to follow up on:

1. How much \$\$ does the SPCA need for all of their capital project needs?
 - a. Where?
 - b. How much is needed per location/community?
 - c. What exactly is the funding needed for at each site?
 - d. Any information that can be provided that links the proposed capital upgrades/expenditures to “mental health support”, “social good”, “wildlife research for SAR”, ...looking for any statements about what the community benefits will be from the funding? Increase in vet tech jobs? Help to reduce pressure in rural communities where there is limited access to vets??

Hoping you can update the existing eapp.
thanks

Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag.
Assistant Deputy Minister, Science Policy and Inspections Division
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
Ph: 778-698-8521 Cell:s.17

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June 23, 2021

PO Box 9409 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9V1

Dear Minister Popham,

I am writing to provide you an update regarding the BC SPCA's upcoming commercial farm compliance inspections using powers granted under Section 15.1 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. We will be contacting the following industries; turkey, pork, beef, dairy, eggs, and chicken, and I have attached an example letter for your records. Each commodity will be receiving a personalized letter, and we have provided contact information for Shawn Eccles should they require a BC SPCA contact.

Please don't hesitate to contact me directly if your office has any questions about these inspections.

Regards,



Marcie Moriarty
Chief Prevention and Enforcement Officer

CC: Deputy Minister Tom Ethier

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October 28, 2021

Honourable Lana Popham
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
P.O. Box 9043
STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC
V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Popham:

Re: Animal welfare assurance on commercial farms in British Columbia

As you are aware, video footage appearing to depict very serious instances of animal abuse on a dairy farm in the Fraser Valley have recently come to light. While I can confirm that BC SPCA Special Provincial Constables are currently conducting a comprehensive investigation to determine whether there have been any breaches of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCAA), that is not the primary purpose of this correspondence.

Almost one year ago, I wrote the Ministry expressing deep concern at the lack of independent oversight and regulation of the commercial farm industry and calling on the Ministry to establish a third party auditing system that will provide assurances to British Columbians that commercially raised farm animals are in fact being raised according to industry's own Codes of Practice. I noted further that the BC SPCA, a privately funded charity employing approximately 40 special constables, could not possibly provide effective oversight of more than 5,000 commercial farms, nor did it seek such authority. A copy of my letter dated November 6, 2020 is attached.

So concerned was the BC SPCA by this lack of oversight that a decision was also made that, despite the limited resources available to the society, a series of limited unannounced inspections of commercial farms (12 in total for 6 commodity groups) under the inspection provisions of the PCAA would be undertaken to, at the very least, provide some form of independent assessment of the state of farm animal welfare in the province.

It is also relevant to note that when the BC SPCA announced that it would be utilizing its inspection powers under the PCAA, there was immediate and significant opposition from industry to these planned unannounced inspections. While the Ministry took the formal position that it was "*a neutral observer in the process, it specifically questioned the BC SPCA's impetus for proceeding with the inspections at this time*". I would suggest further that it was far from enthusiastic about the BC SPCA proceeding along this path. In fact, the only tangible recommendation made by the Ministry in this particular matter was directed not at industry, but to the BC SPCA, "*to develop bylaws as contemplated in Section 6 of the PCAA relating to policies and operational procedures for administering the enforcement powers of the Act and recommending further that industry be engaged and consulted on the development of such bylaws*". See in this regard the letter of the Deputy Minister dated August 20, 2021.

To date, as far as we can reasonably determine, there has been no attempt by the Ministry to hold industry to account for the lack of oversight and now we are faced with yet another shocking revelation of suspected animal abuse on a commercial farm and related issues concerning its operators that are deeply troubling. This is all the more frustrating given our repeated overtures to Ministry staff that these events are bound to continue to occur without effective and independent oversight.

When the video footage of this case is released to the public by the independent animal organization who forwarded it to the BC SPCA for investigation, British Columbians are once again going to be shocked by what they see happening behind some barn doors and will rightfully be asking when will the government take action to hold industry to account. The position that *"this is simply the actions of a very small number of operators and not indicative of industry as a whole"* can no longer be supported given the footage in this case, its operators and the inevitability of further video footage emerging in the future.

Accordingly, I again urge you to bring public confidence back to this sector by mandating a government or third party verification and oversight system for the commercial farm industry. While we acknowledge that such a process is challenging and likely has significant cost implications, the government has to start somewhere and can at the very least take immediate action by mandating both the installation and independent monitoring of video cameras in all commercial farm operations in British Columbia.

Sincerely,



Craig Daniell
Chief Executive Officer

Cc. Melissa Barcellos President, Board of Directors

Enc. Letter of Craig Daniell to Deputy Minister Tom Ethier dated November 6, 2020
Letter of Deputy Minister Tom Ethier to Marcie Moriarty dated August 20, 2021

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November 6, 2020

Mr. Tom Ethier
Deputy Minister of Agriculture
PO Box 9120, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9B4

Dear Mr. Ethier,

Re: Enforcement of the PCA Act on commercial farms

I am writing to provide an update on an evolving issue regarding the BC SPCA's enforcement of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCA Act) on commercial farms.

In 2019, the BC SPCA received a complaint and a video appearing to depict the unacceptable treatment of animals allegedly at s.3. In response to this video, BC SPCA special constables, with prior notice to and subsequent later approval from s.3 attended at the farm with experts in porcine welfare to investigate the allegations, but observed no evidence of code violations at the time of the inspection. As the only evidence in the investigation was a video that was subsequently discovered to be obtained illegally following a break-in to the property, the BC SPCA was advised by Crown counsel that the case could not move forward as the evidence would not be admissible in court. From an investigative perspective, the file was then closed.

As you are no doubt aware, the s.3 case has resulted in significant media attention and public protests, many of which have been directed against the BC SPCA. The protesters and their supporters (a number of which are BC SPCA donors and supporters) mistakenly believe that the decision to not proceed with a prosecution was solely that of the BC SPCA. More concerning is the belief that the BC SPCA is condoning acts of animal cruelty perpetrated by s.3 and protecting the interests of industry by failing to take action in this case.

While I fully support the decision made by our Cruelty Investigations Department not to pursue the allegations further criminally, there is no doubt that this incident has caused significant and potentially long lasting challenges for the organization including recent protests at both our Abbotsford and Vancouver facilities this week, impacting the operations of our animal care, hospital and provincial office teams. This is particularly challenging to address during a pandemic. In addition, some of our staff have been subjected to unacceptable personal attacks on social media as a result of the case. Moreover, the BC SPCA has lost financial support from a number of long time donors, who now believe the Society is not doing enough for farm animals.

The BC SPCA has been active in advocating for higher standards of care for farm animals throughout its 125-year history. In addition to our work in B.C., our farm animal experts actively participate in the NFACC Code development process that brings together industry, animal welfare, veterinarians, scientists and others to seek mutually agreed improvements to farm codes of practice. We have always been a strong supporter of this inclusive process, believing that more is achieved through collaboration rather than adversarial relationships. That approach, however, is based on the premise that Codes of Practice are indeed implemented by industry

associations and we are growing increasingly skeptical that this is the case.

While we cannot confirm the veracity of the claims made on the s.3 video, we are extremely concerned by a trend we see developing, namely that industry lead verification schemes are not achieving a level of public accountability and trust and that what is needed is government mandated regulation and oversight, perhaps through a third party auditing program that provides the assurance needed for British Columbians that commercially raised farm animals are being raised according to industry supported Codes of Practice.

At present, it appears the task of regulating industry appears to fall to the BC SPCA, via its enforcement function. This is a wholly unacceptable situation on at least three levels. Firstly, enforcement is not an effective tool to regulate an industry. Secondly, the BC SPCA, as a donor funded organization, has no capacity to regulate the more than 6,000 commercial farms in British Columbia, nor does it wish to be involved in such an endeavor, and finally we are well aware of the apparent lack of trust that industry has in the work of the BC SPCA.

We understand that no new directives can be taken at this time prior to the formation of government and Cabinet members being sworn in, but hope it is my hope that you will prioritize this issue for the incoming Minister, as well as provide them with a brief on the challenges raised. We look forward to scheduling a meeting with the new Minister to discuss the issue further upon their appointment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Daniell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a small flourish at the end.

Craig Daniell
Chief Executive Officer



August 20, 2021

File: 0280-30

Ref: 195738

Marcie Moriarty
Chief Prevention and Enforcement Officer BC SPCA
1245 East 7th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5T 1R1

Dear Marcie:

Thank you for your August 12, 2021 letter providing an update on the BC Society of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA) efforts and challenges related to your proposed commercial farm inspections.

The efforts over the past two months by the BC SPCA to engage with the Ministry of Agriculture Food and Fisheries (the Ministry) is appreciated. The multiple calls and emails to discuss the upcoming commercial farm inspections and the finalization of the agreement for AFF Observer participation helps to support an effective working relationship.

I am aware of the media report by Country Life on their Facebook page regarding the proposed commercial farm inspections. The Ministry has no control over the media and their reporting. The response letter provided by British Columbia Chicken Marketing Board provides a reasonable explanation and outlines a sound approach for correcting any misinformation. Any corrections to the Country Life reporting are best taken up directly with the media outlet.

.../2

Regarding your comments about threats or violence against your staff. The Province does not tolerate violence in any workplace. The agriculture sector has unfortunately experienced these types of unacceptable comments and behaviours in the workplace. It appears that risks of violence and threatening behaviour have occurred from the regulated parties (farm operators) towards inspectors and officers, and from extreme animal activists towards farm operators. Safety for all activities on farms (inspections and farm operations) is of the utmost importance. Safety of your staff should be your priority. The Province supports all employers implementing robust safety policies to ensure protection of workers in their workplace.

As an entity with delegated inspection and enforcement responsibilities on behalf of the Province, it's important for the BC SPCA to demonstrate transparency to all British Columbians when performing duties under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act* (PCAA). BC SPCA's efforts to conduct commercial farm inspections visibly, predictably, and understandably promotes participation, accountability, and ultimately public trust. To this end, the Ministry supports ongoing dialogue between the BC SPCA and agriculture producers. While this dialogue may pose challenges like the Country Life article, it is only through continued discussion and engagement that issues are resolved and progress is achieved.

To support continued dialogue and enhanced transparency, the Ministry suggests that the BC SPCA develop bylaws as contemplated by s. 6 of the PCAA that relate to the policies and operational procedures of the BC SPCA in performing its enforcement powers under the PCAA. As part of this initiative, the Ministry recommends that the BC SPCA adopt an engagement and consultation process with the BC Agriculture Council (BCAC), and other government agencies (as necessary) to inform the underlying policy for these bylaws. The Ministry is willing to arrange and facilitate this engagement and consultation process. A dialogue on the policies and operational procedures related to the BC SPCA's enforcement powers under the PCAA would demonstrate the BC SPCA's willingness to continue to act visibly, predictably, and understandably in exercising its legislated authority and the Ministry would be happy to arrange and facilitate this engagement and consultation process.

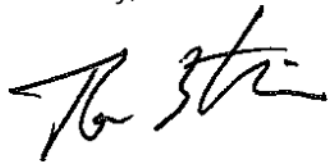
The Ministry has not yet received a copy of the inspection framework/checklist for use by the SPCA during the upcoming commercial farm inspections. I understand this was requested by ministry staff on July 7.

.../3

The Ministry will continue to engage with all parties (BC SPCA, BCAC and commodity groups) to discuss challenges and opportunities. I do take exception to the inference that the ministry has not provided the same courtesies to the BC SPCA as the commodity groups. I understand there have been over eight meetings/calls with the BC SPCA plus email correspondence over the past seven months plus the financial support that has been provided by government over the years.

As these inspections are BC SPCA initiated and lead, the ministry will remain as a neutral observer. Given the ongoing wildfire and drought situation and the extensive recovery efforts ahead of the sector, ministry staff are focused on supporting producers in dire need and question the BC SPCA's impetus for proceeding with these inspections at this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Ethier', written in a cursive style.

Tom Ethier
Deputy Minister

cc: Jennifer McGuire, ADM

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION

Ref: 194860

Date: May 21, 2021

Title: Meeting scheduled with the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BCSPCA) on Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Issue: Vancouver property project, farm inspections, financial contributions and information sharing

Background:

The BCSPCA is a not-for-profit charitable organization, funded primarily by public donations, with a mission to protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm, and wild animals in British Columbia (B.C.). The role of the BCSPCA includes enforcement and community outreach. The BCSPCA was created in 1895, and it has authority under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCA Act)*. The *PCA Act* creates a legislative framework to prevent cruelty to animals in B.C., including family pets (companion animals), livestock, and working animals, but excluding wildlife. The BCSPCA is empowered under the *PCA Act* to ensure animal welfare through inspection and enforcement of the regulations under this *Act*.

Updates on the following items have been requested for the May 25, 2021, meeting:

1. BCSPCA updates regarding the Vancouver property project and plans to inspect a small sub-set of farms.
2. Analysis of the financial contributions made by the provincial government to the BCSPCA
3. Sharing information with the BCSPCA on significant incidents of non-regular animal death or injury incidents.

Discussion:

s.16

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2.) Analysis of the financial contributions made by the provincial government to the BCSPCA

Past government funding received by the BCSPCA includes:

Fiscal Year	Amount (in millions)	Description
2020/21	1.463	Funding for Animal Care Facilities, pandemic response.
2019/20	0.0815	Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) funding used to improve BCSPCA enforcement knowledge with respect to farm animals. A credible farm animal welfare training program for BCSPCA inspectors and agents was identified as an essential component of an effective provincial farm animal welfare approach. The training course uses the current scientific approach to the assessment of farm animal welfare and involves classroom learning and practical field experience.
2016/17	5.000	Contribution to new facilities construction. The grant was allocated to two projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal care facility in Prince George, including community animal care centre with facilities for seized companion animals, and an emergency facility • Flagship BCSPCA campus in Vancouver which will include a large community animal centre, veterinary hospital and provincial office. <p>\$5 million grant will remain intact in a capital fund until construction on one or both projects begins, precise allocation of \$5 million to each project is currently unavailable.</p>
2014/15	5.000	To fund repairs and upgrades to several facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelowna – large animal recovery and adoption barn (\$100k) • Surrey – cat intake and seizure facility (\$400k) • Nanaimo – community animal centre (\$1.3M) • Castlegar – community animal centre (\$900k) • Dawson Creek – community animal centre (\$800k) • Kamloops – community animal centre and vet hospital (\$1.5M).
2010/11	0.100	To develop Standards of Care and a Code of Practice for the Sled Dog industry. Funding was given to support BCSPCA involvement in code development.

For more detailed information regarding BCSPCA capital project needs totaling \$8M, see Appendix 1.

3.) Sharing information with the BCSPCA on significant incidents of non-regular animal death or injury incidents

The inability for Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries employees to share information regarding non-regular animal deaths with the BCSPCA is set out in the *Animal Health Act* (AHA). Section 16 of the AHA limits the release of information in the possession of the Ministry related to animals. The classes of protected information in Section 16 include information which would disclose the location, species, or animal owner, whether or not there is a disease outbreak. The AHA does allow for the disclosure of this protected information in some cases under Section 17. Part of the rationale for this limitation in the AHA is to protect farmers from any fallout that may arise due to unfettered access to information about animals for which they are responsible.

Suggested Response:

- Thank the BCSPCA for their commitment and dedication to representing the collective interests of farm animals in B.C.
- The Ministry is interested in reviewing the farm inspection report once completed.
- The Ministry is bound by the requirements of the *Animal Health Act* regarding sharing of information. Should there be situations where sharing is possible, ministry staff will connect with the BCSPCA as appropriate.
- The Ministry looks forward to a continued positive and productive relationship with the BCSPCA.

Contact:

Gray Daniels, Policy Analyst, 250-419-8715
Sandra Cavallin, Senior Policy Analyst, 778 698-9869

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Appendix 1

Facility name	Region	Facility update/description	Provincial Government funding requested	Social Good (all locations)	Mental Health Supports (all locations)	Community benefits (all locations)
Vancouver	LM/FV/SC	New Vancouver community animal centre, full service veterinary hospital, humane education centre and provincial office + potential partnership with City of Vancouver on animal control. Facility rebuilt on existing location.	\$ 4,000,000	Significantly expand the number of volunteer opportunities. (Van specific) Operates 'Charlie's Foodbank' which provides direct, low barrier access to pet food and veterinary services for Downtown Eastside residents' pets including a significant urban Indigenous population		(Van specific) Shelter and hospital staff are CUPE 1622 and staffing will be increased with new facility; hospital to become a teaching facility accredited with the various veterinary colleges across Canada; in partnerships with post-secondary academic institutions such as UBC, SFU and Uvic for practicum and co-op student placement
Cowichan	Vancouver Island	Construction of Canada's first full service animal behaviour centre. Estimate for 7,040 sq. ft. facility to meet local and Vancouver Island community needs, along with facilities to support humane education activities	\$ 500,000	Community hub for animal welfare needs and inquiries		Access (or connection) to low- or no-cost veterinary services
North Cariboo (Prince George)	Cariboo & North	New facility critically needed to meet community need. Potential partnership with City of PG for animal control component. Assumes 8,000 sq. ft. community animal centre with animal transfer capacity + 2,500 sq. ft. emergency response facility	\$ 1,250,000	Increased space for Peace Officers to conduct Cruelty Investigation work and house increasing numbers of animals per seizure. Emergency Management system to assist the pets of those fleeing natural disaster.		(PG specific) Staff are CUPE 1048 and unionized staffing levels will increase for new facility
North Peace	Cariboo & North	Recently identified significant need for additional housing capacity in the north for seized animals and animals from more northern communities. Requires prioritization in order for Society to continue to seize animals in North. Proposed expansion of dog wing in North Peace to accommodate need. City of Fort St. John has donated land on which facility sits to BC SPCA.	\$ 350,000	Connection to accredited dog trainers that provide humane, science-based behavioural training. Incoming need due to influx of 'pandemic puppies' brought into homes and facing either major life change (return to work/school) or lack of training through pandemic	Partnerships with local agencies (police, social work etc.) around the 'Violence Link' related to training and recognition of violence towards animals	Local procurement: Attaining 10% procurement of materials, goods and services from companies located in British Columbia. These may or may not also be equity-seeking third party certified businesses

Facility name	Region	Facility update/description	Provincial Government funding requested	Social Good (all locations)	Mental Health Supports (all locations)	Community benefits (all locations)
Shuswap	Okanagan & Kootenay	5 acre parcel of land purchased for new facility at \$475k. Shuswap identified as location for second dedicated behaviour centre for the Okanagan. Revised estimate for 7,000 sq. ft. facility. Additionally, potential site for second wildlife rehab centre.	\$ 500,000	Opportunity to offer programs such as obedience training and pet first aid courses	Partnerships with social support services to 'compassionate board' animals of those entering addiction recovery and rehabilitation programs, or hospitalized due to mental health emergencies	Wage alignment to prevailing industry rates to promote good wages for all employees
Alberni-Clayoquot	Vancouver Island	Successfully concluded negotiations for transfer of title to land from City to BC SPCA in 2020 with caveat that BC SPCA will spend \$250k on improvement over 5 years period. Focus of improvements to be in area of humane education, increasing capacity to support/partner with Ahousat First Nation. and surrounding communities and general facility upgrades.	\$ 100,000	Humane education programs for youth and adults	Increased capacity for 'emergency boarding' animals of people leaving interpersonal violence situations	Focus on priority hiring and training of Indigenous peoples, and women
Campbell River	Vancouver Island	Moving towards finalization of land donation by City of Campbell River for construction of 4,500 sq. ft. community animal centre based on BC SPCA Technical guidelines document. Lease on adoption centre renewed for further period of 3 years until March 31, 2023, but not a long term solution. n Technical Guidelines, size of facility should be 4,500 sq. ft.	\$ 1,000,000	Partnerships with local First Nations communities for animal wellness bylaw development, humane education opportunities, and pet food and veterinary outreach.		Local, inclusive employment: Making 10% of new entry level jobs available to people in community first, specifically those who are equity-seeking. Pet foodbank outreach and local pick up

Facility name	Region	Facility update/description	Provincial Government funding requested	Social Good (all locations)	Mental Health Supports (all locations)	Community benefits (all locations)
Surrey	LM/FV/SC	Further analysis of Surrey property and Society wide trends identifies need for additional triage capacity for seized animals. Existing capacity in place for cats, but improvements required to accommodate dogs. Continued upgrades to large animal seizure and adoption barn. Projected \$2M cost.	\$ 300,000			

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Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION

Ref: 194860

Date: May 21, 2021

Title: Meeting scheduled with the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Animal Cruelty (BCSPCA) on Tuesday, May 25, 2021

Issue: Vancouver property project, farm inspections, financial contributions and information sharing

Background:

The BCSPCA is a not-for-profit charitable organization, funded primarily by public donations, with a mission to protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm, and wild animals in British Columbia (B.C.). The role of the BCSPCA includes enforcement and community outreach. The BCSPCA was created in 1895, and it has authority under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (PCA Act)*. The *PCA Act* creates a legislative framework to prevent cruelty to animals in B.C., including family pets (companion animals), livestock, and working animals, but excluding wildlife. The BCSPCA is empowered under the *PCA Act* to ensure animal welfare through inspection and enforcement of the regulations under this *Act*.

Updates on the following item have been requested for the May 25, 2021, meeting:

1. BCSPCA updates regarding the Vancouver property project and plans to inspect a small sub-set of farms.
2. Analysis of the financial contributions made by the provincial government to the BCSPCA
3. Sharing information with the BCSPCA on significant incidents of non-regular animal death or injury incidents.

Discussion:

s.16

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2.) Analysis of the financial contributions made by the provincial government to the BCSPCA

Past government funding received by the BCSPCA includes:

Fiscal Year	(in millions)	Description
2020/21	1.463	Funding for Animal Care Facilities, pandemic response.
2018/20	0.0815	Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) funding. Improving BCSPCA enforcement knowledge with respect to farm animals
2016/17	5.000	Contribution to new facility construction.
2014/15	5.000	To fund repairs and upgrades to several facilities.
2010/11	0.100	To develop Standard of Cares and a Code of Practice for the Sled Dog industry.

3.) Sharing information with the BCSPCA on significant incidents of non-regular animal death or injury incidents

The inability for Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries employees to share information regarding non-regular animal deaths with the BCSPCA is covered in the *Animal Health Act* (AHA). Section 16 of the AHA limits the release of information in the possession of the Ministry related to animals. The classes of protected information in Section 16 include information which would disclose the location, species, or animal owner, whether or not there is a disease outbreak. The AHA does allow for the disclosure of this protected information in some cases under Section 17. Part of the rationale for this limitation in the AHA is to protect farmers from any fallout that may arise due to unfettered access to information about animals for which they are responsible.

Suggested Response:

- Thank the BCSPCA for their commitment and dedication to representing the collective interests of farm animals in B.C.
- The Ministry is interested in reviewing the farm inspection report once completed.
- The Ministry is bound by the requirements of the *Animal Health Act* regarding sharing of information. Should there be situations where sharing is possible, ministry staff will connect with the BCSPCA as appropriate.
- The Ministry looks forward to a continued positive and productive relationship with the BCSPCA.

Contact:

Sandra Cavallin, Senior Policy Analyst, 778 698-9869
Gray Daniels, Policy Analyst, 250-419-8715

ED AT

ADM JLM

DM TE

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SPCA FOI REQUEST FW: report sharing

From: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
To: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 10, 2022 at 10:13:35 AM Pacific Standard Time

From: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX
Sent: October 26, 2021 5:32 PM
To: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: report sharing

s.15

From: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 5:18 PM
To: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: report sharing

s.15

From: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 5:08 PM
To: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: report sharing

s.15

Certification of approved farms

4 (1) On proof of compliance by a dairy farmer with this Act and the regulations, the *Animal Contagious Diseases Act* (Canada), the *Animal Health Act*, and the regulations under those Acts, an inspector may issue to the dairy farmer a certificate setting out that the farm is an approved dairy farm for the purpose stated in the certificate.

s.15

From: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 4:59 PM
To: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: report sharing

s.15

s.15

From: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 4:55 PM
To: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: report sharing

s.15

- A dairy farmer must ensure that each dairy barn and milking parlour on the dairy farm is constructed, used, and maintained in a manner that:
 - Prevents contamination of raw milk produced on the farm
 - Ensures that all operations in the dairy barn and milking parlour are carried out under sanitary conditions
 - Prevents condensation and the accumulation of odours
 - Prevents injuries to dairy animals
 - Minimized damage by dairy animals

s.15

From: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 4:46 PM
To: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: report sharing

s.15

From: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 4:43 PM
To: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: report sharing

s.15

From: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 4:38 PM
To: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: report sharing

s.15

From: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 4:29 PM
To: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: report sharing

Hi,

s.15

Erin

From: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 26, 2021 4:26 PM
To: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: report sharing

s.15

Rayna

Rayna E. Gunvaldsen BSA DVM MSc

Chief Veterinarian

Animal Welfare and Dairy Program Veterinarian

BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Fisheries

Office: 604-556-3013

Cell: s.15

SPCA FOI REQUEST FW: SPCA meeting

From: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
To: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 10, 2022 at 10:14:16 AM Pacific Standard Time
Attachments: Outlook-5vhyadh5.png

From: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 3:39 PM
To: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: SPCA meeting

From: McGuire, Jennifer AFF:EX <Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 2:56 PM
To: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: SPCA meeting

See location and details below.

From: Marcie Moriarty <mmoriarty@spca.bc.ca>
Sent: October 27, 2021 2:54 PM
To: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: McGuire, Jennifer AFF:EX <Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Follow up

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hi Tom,

I confirm that I will be at provincial office to greet the ministry staff and show some of the video clips on the understanding that this information is highly confidential and to be used only for the purpose of briefing the Minister as you indicate below.

Regards,
Marcie

Marcie Moriarty

(She/Her)

Chief Prevention and Enforcement Officer

and guardian to Pip and Zorro

BC SPCA

1245 East 7th Avenue

Vancouver BC V5T 1R1

604-647-1318

1-855-622-7722 • mmoriarty@spca.bc.ca • spca.bc.ca

Animal Cruelty and Wildlife Hotline: 1.855.622.7722

From: Ethier, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Ethier@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: October 27, 2021 2:38 PM

To: Marcie Moriarty <mmoriarty@spca.bc.ca>

Cc: McGuire, Jennifer AFF:EX <Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Follow up

Good Afternoon Marcie,

Thank you for the call this morning. This email is to confirm with you that we will have two staff at your office tomorrow morning at 9 am to view videos in your possession of alleged animal abuse. The viewing will be for the purpose of briefing the Minister. Thank you for your assistance. Regards, Tom.

Caution: This email originated from outside of the BC SPCA. Do not click links or attachments unless you recognize the sender.

SPCA FOI REQUEST FW: conf call details coming to you for an 11:15 call with minister

From: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
To: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 10, 2022 at 10:15:13 AM Pacific Standard Time
**I wasn't on this call so I'm not sure this is relevant

From: Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: October 28, 2021 10:49 AM
To: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Fwd: conf call details coming to you for an 11:15 call with minister

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "McGuire, Jennifer AFF:EX" <Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca>
Date: October 28, 2021 at 10:46:47 AM PDT
To: "Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX" <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: conf call details coming to you for an 11:15 call with minister

*Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag.
Assistant Deputy Minister
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries*

SPCA FOI REQUEST FW: s.3

From: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
To: Hughes, Marie Julie AFF:EX <MarieJulie.Hughes@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: January 10, 2022 at 10:16:33 AM Pacific Standard Time

From: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 5, 2021 11:37 AM
To: Chai, Shauna-Lee AFF:EX <Shauna-Lee.Chai@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re:s.3

Hi,
I would refer it to Rayna at this time. I'm happy to assist if needed though.
Erin
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Chai, Shauna-Lee AFF:EX <Shauna-Lee.Chai@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, November 5, 2021 11:32:39 AM
To: Cuthbert, Erin AFF:EX <Erin.Cuthbert@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW:s.3
Hi Erin – does this one reside with you?

From: Droppo, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Droppo@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 5, 2021 10:53 AM
To: Chai, Shauna-Lee AFF:EX <Shauna-Lee.Chai@gov.bc.ca>; Gunvaldsen, Rayna AFF:EX <Rayna.Gunvaldsen@gov.bc.ca>; Radke, Brian AFF:EX <Brian.Radke@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Beyers, Georgina AFF:EX <Georgina.Beyers@gov.bc.ca>; AGRIServiceBC AFF:EX <AgriServiceBC@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW:s.3
Good morning Shauna-Lee, Rayna & Brian:
s.3

Tom Droppo, M.Sc., C.I.M., P.Ag.
Industry Specialist - Dairy & Pork
Extension and Support Services Branch
BC Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
T: 250.737.2565 | M: s.15

From: AGRIServiceBC AFF:EX <AgriServiceBC@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: November 5, 2021 8:45 AM
To: Droppo, Tom AFF:EX <Tom.Droppo@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: AGRIServiceBC AFF:EX <AgriServiceBC@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW:s.3

Good Morning Tom
Could you please let me know what I am to do with this complaint? Can you please respond or suggest where I should direct this?
Thank you,
HAPPY FRIDAY & Have a GREAT rest of your day and weekend! woot woot
Dana

From: Virginia Coles <vkcoles@yahoo.ca>
Sent: November 5, 2021 8:15 AM
To: AGRIServiceBC AFF:EX <AgriServiceBC@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: s.3
Good morning,

